

M-6/Kalamazoo Avenue Single-Point Urban Interchange

What is a Single-Point Urban Interchange?

A Single-Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) is a new type of interchange for Michigan. Left-turn movements are brought to a “single point” at the center of the interchange. Opposing left-turn movements are then completed simultaneously under the protection of a traffic signal. A SPUI can be constructed with minimal right-of-way, ideal for urban areas, hence the name “Single-Point Urban Interchange.” SPUI is pronounced “Spooey.”



This photo depicts the M-6/Kalamazoo SPUI (looking north) after construction of the M-6 bridges in 2004. The center of the SPUI intersection is beneath the bridges.

What are the benefits of a SPUI?

- Can be constructed with minimal right-of-way
- Improved turn radius for left-turn movements
- Can reduce motorist delay compared to standard diamond interchanges
- Can be coordinated into cross-street signal systems

Why is the M-6/Kalamazoo interchange a SPUI?

- Not enough right-of-way to construct costly free-flow loop ramps
- Nearby adjacent traffic signals (at the East Kentwood High School entrance to the north and a future traffic signal at Crown Center Drive to the south) make a SPUI the best interchange choice for traffic signal coordination along Kalamazoo Avenue